

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8851

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: UK FOREIGN MINISTRY SEMINAR ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. NIALL MACDERMOT, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS (ICJ) TELEPHONED MISOFF TO REPORT ON HIS ATTENDANCE AT A HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINAR HELD AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 25.

2. THE SEMINAR WAS UNIQUE IN THAT IT WAS SPONSORED BY THE UK FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CONDUCTED BY FOURTH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS EVAN LUARD. IN ATTENDANCE WERE ACADEMICS, TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, TWO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, ICJ, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC VOLAGS ACTIVE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD.

3. ACCORDING TO MACDERMOT, PURPOSE OF SESSION WAS TO FORMULATE A MORE COHERENT UK HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. NGO'S URGED THAT TO BE EFFECTIVE, WESTERN NATIONS SHOULD WORK OUT OBJECTIVES IN ADVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION. NOTING THAT THIS WAS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE, NGO'S SAID THAT TOO OFTEN GOALS ARE OBSCURED OR LOST BECAUSE THE WEST DOES NOT WORK TOGETHER BEFORE HRC
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SESSIONS BEGIN, AND THEN ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE NONALIGNED.

4. MACDERMOT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE US AND UK GOVERNMENTS COULD, IN FUTURE, HOLD JOINT SEMINARS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SIMILAR TO THE OXFORD GATHERING.SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, SEMINARS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: SHUM, UK, (MACDERMOT, NIAL), (LUARD, EVAN)
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